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UNCLAS OTTAWA 000646

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

ROME FOR MFO

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CANADA UNLIKELY TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTION TO  
MULTINATIONAL FORCE AND OBSERVERS (MFO)

REF: STATE 49688

(SBU) COL Geoff St. John, head of Foreign Affairs' Peacekeeping Section, told us on March 7 that Canada is very unlikely to be able to increase its contribution to MFO. He said the Department of National Defense is staffing our request to see if it could fill any of the specific needs lifted in reftel, but that its pending contribution of a battalion and brigade headquarters to ISAF IV and V will put a huge strain on the Canadian Forces.  
KELLY